



# SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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	<u>April 2008 Minutes</u>  <u>Minutes of Shipston on Stour Town Council held in Clark House, Shipston on Stour at 7.00pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2008</u>  <u>Those Present:-</u> Town Councillors: Cllr.A.H.Noyce (Town Mayor), Cllr.I.C.Cooper, Cllr.Mrs.J.Evans, Cllr.S.C.Gray, Cllr.Mrs.A.Henderson, Cllr.Mrs.A.A.Noyce, Cllr.K.Rutter, Cllr.M.A.Stevens, Cllr.R.Taylor, Cllr.R.White.  County Councillors: Cllr.C.Saint  District Councillors: Cllr.T.Russel.  Press:  Public: 16 members of the public plus two members of the press.  <u>Mr.R.Moy and Mr. M.Gittings re: Proposed eco town.</u> Mr.Moy gave a report to the meeting regarding the road show that is being undertaken to lobby against the possibility of a new eco town being built adjacent to the old base at Long Marston, and also pointed out that central government is also being lobbied in this regard, and that in order to keep this momentum going financial donations will be welcomed (with HSBC taking donations from individuals), and then introduced Mr.Gittings Mr.Gittings ( Chair of Mickelton PC) indicated that the proposed town would consist of approximately 6000 dwellings, and the current area infrastructure cannot support that. The current list of 15 sites will be reduced to 10 in June 08, but the Long Marston site is totally unsuitable given that there are no roads to carry the traffic, there is relatively no unemployment in the area, there are 3 small bridges leading from the site that will cause problems for traffic. Mr.Gittings asked those present for help in keeping this issue in the public eye, and gave information to those present. The Town Mayor thanked Mr.Moy and Gittings for their presentation and indicated that if a petition were presented it would be available in Clark House.	Action

### **Ms.J.Aratoon and Better Welcome**

Ms.Aratoon gave a report on the progress of the Better welcome project and how it will be rolled out. It was noted that the projected cost is £45K of which the Town Council will provide £5K, and a representative from the Town Council will be invited to discuss the siting of the project. There will be a site meeting on the morning of 16 April in Rugby, returning in the afternoon to Shipston On Stour. Stour Vision asked for a Town Council representative on that group, and gave a report on Shipston Business Forum. The Town Mayor asked Ms. Aratoon who will be responsible for maintenance of the electronic display, Ms.Aratoon indicated that this will be a matter for discussion once the project is underway. Cllr.Taylor asked why this is an electronic display rather than another medium, Ms.Aratoon replied that electronic information is much easier to update and will bring more benefit to Shipston On Stour than an alternative.

The Town Mayor thanked Mr.Moy and Gittings, and Ms.Aratoon for their contributions.

### **Introduction**

The Town Mayor, Cllr.A.H.Noyce, welcomed Town Council members, the press, together with the public to the April meeting of Shipston On Stour Town Council, and noted that it is a pleasure to see new faces. The Town Mayor also indicated that this is a sad time as a number of Cllrs. are retiring, and he thanked them for their hard work on behalf of Shipston On Stour over the years.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from:-  
Cllr.Mrs.A.Henderson, Cllr.R.Wolf, Cllr.R.White.

### **Acceptance of Apologies**

These apologies were unanimously accepted.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr.S.Gray declared an interest as a District Cllr. in the first presentation, as a member of Stour Power in the second presentation, and as a school governor in the letter regarding the travellers on the Darlingscote Road.

### **Minutes of the two Last Town Council meetings held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008 and 10 March 2008**

It was proposed by Cllr.Taylor and seconded by Cllr.Rutter that the minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> February be signed as a true copy, it was proposed by Cllr.Mrs.Evans that the minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> March be signed as a true copy – **The above motions were carried unanimously.**

### **Reports**

Town Cllrs.

Cllr.Mrs.Evans noted that in regard of returning soldiers it seems that there is no one from Shipston On Stour currently in the army. Cllr.Gray noted that he received a visit from the Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr.N.Kaye, who handed a letter of resignation from the Town Council together with his badge of office. Cllr.Gray also indicated that he was

disappointed in the Town council report to the Annual Town Meeting, and felt that the Town Council could have reported better on what had been done in the year.

Cllr.Mrs.Noyce had it reported that children had been damaging the sensory garden, and on inspection found it not as bad as had been reported, however the Town Council will have to decide whether to leave the garden open at all times, or open and close at predetermined times.

#### Reports of meetings attended

Cllr.Taylor noted that a WALC meeting it was indicated that the County Council must be informed if anything needs to be done within the road and this includes placing ladders in the road to fit the Christmas lights. This is something the Town Council needs to be aware of. Cllr.Taylor also asked whether the Town Council vehicle needs to be fitted with a flashing light for safety reasons.

Cllr.Cooper attended a meeting of Shipston United Businesses, and indicated that local businesses would like to put forward a proposal for a farmers market in the town and would like the views of the Town Council. Therefore to that end Shipston United Businesses will put a formal proposal forward to the Town Council.

#### District Council issues

Cllr.Russel noted that the District Council will need to be involved if a farmers market wants to close a town centre car park for its use.

Cllr.Russel indicated that the District Council will debate the issue of eco towns during the week of 21 April. With regard to a one stop shop it was noted that officers from the District Council are working on a report to reconvene in June 08 to look again at all options. The Officers accept that a face to face presence should be kept(although partners will be needed to make it viable).

Cllr.Russel noted that a member of the public has indicated that the Darlingscote Road travellers have not stopped work on the site as required by the District Council, and will take the matter back to the District Council. Cllr.Russel also indicated that the District Council has applied for an injunction to remove the travellers, but given the current appeal system it could be some time before the matter is determined.

Cllr.Russel also noted that the District Council was collecting rubbish bags from the site, and also that the travellers were not paying council tax as it could be perceived by the collection of the tax that the District Council was giving permission to stay.

#### Shipston Forum

Mr.Tolley apologised to Cllr.Mrs.Evans that it was not readily apparent that the article on the front page of the forum was a spoof story.

It was noted that Cllr.Cooper delivered the town plan to the area committee meeting where it was well received and formally adopted by the committee

Stour Power  
There were no further issues from Stour Power

### **Open Forum**

The Town Mayor suspended Standing Orders in order that the public can make representations to the Town Council meeting  
A member of the public asked whether the Town Mayor had a mandate from the Town Council to invite the travellers to the annual town meeting, Cllr.Noyce replied that there had not been enough to arrange this, and on his own initiative visited the site and invited the leader to the town meeting to answer questions from the townspeople. It was noted that this issue took over the meeting, and it may have been better to have a separate meeting for this issue. It was further requested that in future the town meeting be kept to town issues in the previous year, and other issues be dealt with at a separate meeting. It was noted that as little as six months ago there was a good police presence within the town, but sadly this is no longer the case, and given that the council tax increased for police issues, townspeople appear to be paying more for a greatly reduced service. Cllr.Cooper pointed out that an action for the Town Council will be to lobby for a greater police presence within Shipston On Stour. Mrs.Courtney asked whether it would be possible to have the police present at Town Council meetings, the Town Mayor pointed out that it was indeed possible and that the police will be formally invited to each monthly meeting of the Council. Mrs. Pearce asked whether the Mayo Road scheme is publicised, and whether the questions outlined in her letter can be answered. The Town Mayor in answer replied that the Town Cllrs. are trustees as individuals, not as a Town Council, and therefore it is not a matter for the Town Council, and ruled out of order. It was also pointed out by a member of the public that the Neighbourhood Watch meet monthly with the police giving a report to that meeting, it was also noted that this meeting is open to the public. Mrs.Courtney indicated that parties are being held in the sensory garden with the gates being locked.

### **Planning Matters**

08/00655/FUL, 6 Clark Close, Shipston On Stour: proposed two storey side extensions to form additional living accommodation – **No representation.**

08/00456/FUL, Swan Cottage, Station Cottages, Station Road, Shipston On Stour: Two storey lounge/bedroom to rear of existing property and alterations to front elevation – **No representation.**

08/00544/LBC, 20 Church Street, Shipston On Stour: infill

existing cellar with lean mix concrete, 60mm rigid insulation, finished with 75mm screed. Ground level to be as existing – **No representation.**

08/00633/LBC, Flat 1 Cedar Lawn, 38 Church Street, Shipston On Stour: Interior lobby partition – constructed of timber and glazing panel. Approx. 20-30 years since construction. To open up lobby area back to original setting. The work is being completed due to floods in July 2007 – **No representation.**

08/00855/FUL, 33 Berry Avenue, Shipston On Stour: Proposed two storey side extension, front porch and form new vehicular access – **No representation.**

08/00762/TREE, 20 Telegraph Street, Shipston On Stour: T1 group of Leyland cypress – reduce height by 33%: T2 group of Leyland cypress reduce height by approx. 50% – **No representation.**

08/00849/FUL, 37 Hawthorn Way, Shipston On Stour: Single storey extension to rear – **No representation.**

08/00807/FUL, 47 Hawthorn Way, Shipston On Stour: Proposed extension to form utility area – **No representation.**

#### **Financial Matters**

It proposed by Cllr.Rutter and seconded by Cllr.Stevens that all presented invoices be paid - **this motion was unanimously agreed.**

#### **Town Council Year End Accounts and Auditors Report**

After full discussions of the accounts and report it was proposed by Cllr.Stevens and seconded by Cllr. Rutter that the accounts and reports be accepted as a true record, and items identified in the report be acted upon - **this motion was unanimously agreed.**

County Council Issues.

County Cllr.Saint gave a report on County Council issues.

Cllr.Saint pointed out that on the one stop shop issue there a hopes for a joint delivery with CC&DC together with an audit of all issues that can be tackled together.

Cllr.Saint noted that the new Director of E & E will take post on Wed 16 April

#### **Correspondence**

Letter 20, S.Wilson, guide sponsorship, it was determined that the Town Council has no powers to sponsor an individual, and therefore a letter turning down the request is to be sent.

Letter 35, MP & KM Golding, Road Reclamation Services, it was determined that this letter be passed to the Mayo Road trustees.

### **WALC/QPS Funding**

Gave a report on the original funding request for new notice boards, and outlined how he believed that the bid would be better served not for notice boards, but rather for an overhead projector screen within Clark House. Cllr.Taylor has drafted a bid to that effect but it must be entered before end April, this was agreed and Cllr.Taylor will bring the bid to Clark House for onward transmission

### **Shipston On Stour Website**

Cllr.Cooper met with the website manager to discuss options and costs, and these will be brought to the next meeting. The Clerk is to put the website as an agenda item for the May meeting of the Town Council.

### **Cemetery Lodge and Chapel**

The Town Council is still awaiting a response from the diocese regarding the Town Council rights and responsibilities, Cllr.Gray noted that the Town Council needs to have a clear view on what it wants to do with the buildings on the site, and indicated that perhaps a discussion with the District Council architect would be of benefit. Cllr.Cooper mentioned that perhaps some support may be forthcoming from local individuals/entrepreneurs. The Clerk is to contact the diocese in order to speed the process, and the Town Council needs to explore further possibilities.

### **Shoulderway Lane Allotments Water Supply**

It was determined to ask Mr,Crockford where the instruction to provide this supply came from.

### **Dog and Litter Bins**

It was unanimously determined that that one of each bin be ordered and erected in the Tannery (litter bin) and Manor Lane (dog bin).

### **Clark House Office Furniture.**

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr.Mrs.Evans and seconded by Cllr.Gray that new office furniture be ordered to a maximum of £1000, **this motion was unanimously agreed.**

Cllr.Gray further noted that the upstairs room is also in need of renovation.

The Town Mayor again thanked all retiring Cllrs. for all of their hard work throughout the year, and especially Cllr.Taylor who has served on the Town Council for 28 years.

The Town Mayor noted that the next meeting will be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in Clark House commencing at 7.00pm, and will be the Annual Town Council meeting.

There being no further business the Town Mayor thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Councillor A.H.Noyce

Town Mayor

Shipston on Stour Town Council